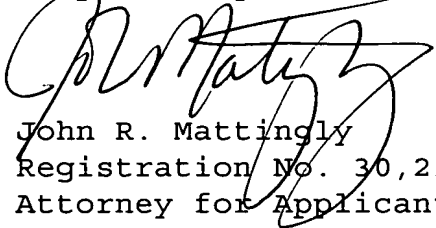


REMARKS

Claims 2-19 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Applicants intend to file new claims within the next month.

Examination is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John R. Mattingly", is written over the typed name and title.

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Date: February 27, 2004

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

An optical module for an optical device and an optical fiber is constituted by a pre-molded plastic package. In forming the plastic package, the main flowing direction of the molding resin is substantially parallel with the optical axis of the optical fiber. The optical module is formed by molding the resin by injection using pressure and then solidifying the resin. When the plastic package is formed by comprehensive molding, the flowing direction of the resin is parallel with the optical axis direction of the optical fiber to be installed in the optical module. As a result, for comprehensive molding, the molding pressure applied to the optical fiber is reduced. By using the resin case that is formed, the resulting package exhibits high rigidity and low thermal expansion properties in connection with the flowing direction of the resin, thus reducing the external stress and thermal stress applied to the optical fiber.